



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffery T. Helvey*
Heidi L. Kraus
Crystal D. Sayles
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCall
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Albert J. Fasulo II*
Eldora Ellison Floyd
W. Russell Swindell

Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono*
Virgil Lee Beaston*
Reginald D. Lucas*
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Bruce E. Chalker
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham*
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Pregarman*
Jane Shershenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*

Senior Counsel
Samuel L. Fox
Kenneth C. Bass III

Registered Patent Agents
Karen R. Markowicz
Andrea J. Kamage
Nancy J. Leith
Joseph M. Conrad III
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Angelique G. Uy
Boris A. Matvenko
Mary B. Tung

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Admitted only in Texas

March 21, 2002

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 789-5525

INTERNET ADDRESS:
BRIAND@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
MAR 25 2002
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Via Hand Carry
Group Art Unit 1655
Examiner D. Johannsen

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/517,466; Filed: March 2, 2000
For: **Compositions and Methods for Use in Recombinational Cloning of Nucleic Acids**
Inventors: Hartley *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4680003/RWE/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fifth Preliminary Amendment;
2. 337 pages of a paper copy of a sequence listing;
3. A computer readable copy of the sequence listing; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents

March 21, 2002

Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Del Buono", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

Enclosures

P:\Users\BCARROLL\0942\4680003\5PRELIM.TRANS.WPD